

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MADRID 03882 01 OF 02 181433Z

ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 INT-05 CIAE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 L-03 AGRE-00 ERDA-05 HEW-04 EPA-01 PRS-01
USIA-06 /052 W

-----181635Z 062568 /43

R 181048Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 356

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 MADRID 3882

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TGEN, MARR, SP

SUBJECT: JOINT COMMITTEE S & T MEETING OF MAY 16

1. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS: A MEETING OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION WAS HELD IN MADRID ON MAY 16. THE MEETING WAS FRIENDLY AND COOPERATIVE. THE SPANISH REQUESTED U.S. COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE IN EVOLVING GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA FOR THE TIMELY SELECTION OF MERITORIOUS COOPERATIVE RESEARCH PROGRAMS. SUCH INVOLVEMENT, IN THE MANNER AGREED, SHOULD PROVE HELPFUL IN ADVANCING THE S & T PROGRAM. THE FOUNDATION FOR RAPID PROGRESS HAS BEEN CREATED FOR THE PERIOD AFTER THE JUNE ELECTIONS. THIS MESSAGE WAS REVIEWED IN DRAFT BY ASST. SECY. MINK PRIOR TO HER DEPARTURE. END SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS.

2. THE US-SPANISH JOINT COMMITTEE FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION, ESTABLISHED BY THE TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION BETWEEN BOTH COUNTRIES, HELD ITS FIRST FORMAL MEETING ON MONDAY, MAY 16, 1977, AT THE SPANISH MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

3. THE MEETING WAS PRESIDED OVER BY THE TWO CO-CHAIRPERSONS OF THE COMMITTEE, PATSY T. MINK (ASST. SECY. OF STATE FOR OCEANS AND INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS) AND
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MADRID 03882 01 OF 02 181433Z

MANUEL BARROSO FELTRER (DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL COOPERATION).

4. ON THE U.S. SIDE, THE FOLLOWING PERSONS ALSO ATTENDED:
--MR. ARTHUR E. BREISKY: POL/MIL COUNSELOR, U.S. EMBASSY, MADRID, AND U.S. PERMANENT SECRETARY OF THE US-SPANISH COUNCIL;
--DR. DUNCAN CLEMENT: SCIATT, AMEMBASSY, MADRID;

--MR. JOHN FRY: OES;
--MR. CHARLES GORSEY: OES;
--DR. NED BAYLEY; DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE;
--MR. ROBERT STURGILL: DEPT. OF INTERIOR;
--DR. JOHN LEECH: ERDA;
--DR. ROBERT FISCHER: HEW;
--MR. KIRK HARPER: EPA;
--DR. CLIFFORD SELVAGE: SANDIA LABORATORIES, ERDA.

THE SPANISH SIDE INCLUDED, FROM THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, JOSE IGNACIO BENAVIDES, JOINT COMMITTEE'S SECRETARY, AND LUIS CUERVO, SPANISH PERMANENT SECRETARY OF THE US-SPANISH COUNCIL, AS WELL AS REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MINISTRIES OF PUBLIC WORKS, EDUCATION AND SCIENCE, INDUSTRY, AGRICULTURE, COMMERCE, AND AIR.

5. A NUMBER OF ADMINISTRATIVE OR PROCEDURAL STEPS WERE TAKEN:

--JOSE IGNACIO BENAVIDES WAS FORMALLY APPOINTED SECRETARY OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE;
--THE PROCEDURAL GUIDELINES OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE WERE FORMALLY APPROVED AND SIGNED;
--THE DOCUMENT ESTABLISHING THE PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT FUND WAS APPROVED AND SIGNED (TEXT MADRID 3266);
--A DOCUMENT ALLOCATING FUNDS TO APPROVED CLASSES OF ACTIVITIES WAS SIGNED, INCORPORATING PERCENTAGE ALLOCATIONS REPORTED IN MADRID 3371; HOWEVER, AT THE MEETING A PROVISION WAS INCLUDED IN THE DOCUMENT PERMITTING LIMITED CHANGES IN PERCENTAGE ALLOCATIONS TO BE MADE;
--IT WAS AGREED TO GIVE PRIORITY TO ESTABLISHING THE JOINT COMMITTEE'S SECRETARIAT STAFF AND TO SUBMIT THE FINAL BUDGET FOR THE STAFF AND OPERATING EXPENSES OF THE SECRETARIAT TO THE CO-CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MADRID 03882 01 OF 02 181433Z

CHAIRPERSONS FOR APPROVAL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE;
THE JOINT COMMITTEE'S SECRETARY STATED THAT A PRELIMINARY PLAN AND TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR A COMBINED S & T AND E & C SECRETARIAT, TO SERVE BOTH S & T AND E & C JOINT COMMITTEES HAD BEEN DEVELOPED, CALLING FOR AN INITIAL STAFF OF 7 TO 8 PERSONS AND ANNUAL BUDGET OF \$120,000 TO BE EVENLY DIVIDED BETWEEN THE TWO JOINT COMMITTEES. THE CO-CHAIRPERSONS ACCEPTED THESE ESTIMATES OF STAFF SIZE AND BUDGET AS REASONABLE.
--IT WAS AGREED THAT THE NEXT FORMAL MEETING OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE WILL BE HELD IN OCTOBER 1977, ON A MUTUALLY AGREED DATE;
--A JOINT PRESS COMMUNIQUE WAS RELEASED (SEPTTEL). STABLER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MADRID 03882 02 OF 02 181523Z

ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 INT-05 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 L-03 AGRE-00 ERDA-05 HEW-04 EPA-01 PRS-01

USIA-06 /052 W

-----181628Z 063370 /43

R 180848Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 357

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 MADRID 3882

6. THE SECRETARY OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE (BENAVIDES) MADE A BRIEF REPORT

ON THE RESULTS THUS FAR OF THE REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS FROM THE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY PUBLISHED IN SPAIN. HE SAID THE VOLUME OF PROPOSALS (OVER 480, REPRESENTING REQUESTS FOR OVER \$39 MILLION OF INSTITUTIONAL GRANTS, \$15 MILLION OF COOPERATIVE RESEARCH GRANTS, AND OTHER TYPES OF GRANTS NOT YET TOTALED) HAS OVERWHELMED THE SPANISH CAPACITY FOR REVIEW. (HE LATER TOLD US TOTAL VALUE OF ALL PROPOSALS RECEIVED SO FAR IS IN FACT CLOSE TO \$100 MILLION).

BARROSO APOLOGIZED ON BEHALF OF THE SPANISH SIDE FOR THIS SITUATION, AND FOR THEIR RESULTANT INABILITY TO RECOMMEND ANY SPECIFIC PROGRAMS FOR FUNDING AT THIS TIME. ASST. SECY. MINK EXPRESSED APPRECIATION AND UNDERSTANDING OF THIS SPANISH PROBLEM.

7. IN THE COURSE OF ENSUING DISCUSSIONS, BARROSO ASKED THE U.S. SIDE TO COOPERATE WITH THE SPANISH IN DEVELOPING GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA FOR THE APPROVAL OF COOPERATIVE RESEARCH ACTIVITIES, SO THAT THE MOST MERITORIOUS PROGRAMS WOULD BE SUPPORTED WITH THE LIMITED TREATY S & T FUNDS AVAILABLE.

8. COMMENT: OUR FOREIGN MINISTRY INTERLOCUTORS TOLD US INFORMALLY THAT INTERNAL SPANISH DISCUSSIONS PRIOR TO THE MEETING ON THE COMPOSITION OF THE PROGRAM WERE LONG AND SHARPLY DEBATED. THE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MADRID 03882 02 OF 02 181523Z

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE (MES) STRONGLY FAVORED EMPHASIS ON INSTITUTIONAL AND DIRECT RESEARCH GRANTS AND THEREFORE DISAGREED WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY AND THE TECHNICAL MINISTRY IN THEIR SUPPORT OF THE PERCENTAGE ALLOCATION OF 85 PERCENT FOR COOPERATIVE RESEARCH; THERE REMAINS A REAL QUESTION AS TO WHETHER THEY WILL BE SATISFIED WITH THE COMPROMISE ADOPTED BY

THE CO-CHAIRMAN (ABOVE, PARA 5). MES ARGUES THAT A HEAVY EMPHASIS ON A FEW LARGE COOPERATIVE PROJECTS UNDERMINES THE PROCESS OF REQUESTING PROPOSALS FROM THE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY. (THE DIRECT GRANTS ARE OF SUBSTANTIAL BUDGETARY INTEREST TO THE INSTITUTES AND UNIVERSITIES WHICH FALL DIRECTLY UNDER MES.) MES REPRESENTATIVE EDUARDO ZORITA (DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR SCIENCE POLICY) INTERVENED AT THE MEETING TO WARN OF THE POSSIBILITY OF A BACKLASH AMONG DISAPPOINTED SPANISH APPLICANTS. OUR FOREIGN MINISTRY CONTACTS IN STRICTEST CONFIDENCE RAISED THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE MES POSITION MIGHT EMERGE AS AN ANTI-SUAREZ ELECTION ISSUE (E.E., HIS ALLEGED FAILURE IN THIS CASE ADEQUATELY TO SUPPORT THE INTEREST OF SPANISH SCIENCE).

9. WE BELIEVE THAT CERTAIN MES OFFICIALS INVOLVED ARE NOT INCAPABLE OF PROMOTING THE VERY BACKLASH ZORITA WARNS OF, IN WHICH CASE THERE MIGHT ALSO BE AN ATTEMPT TO MAKE THE US APPEAR TO SHARE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE MANY CUTS THAT MUST BE MADE. END COMMENT.

10. ACCORDINGLY, ASST. SECY. MINK SUGGESTED THAT THE US SIDE WOULD COOPERATE WITH THE SPANISH SIDE IN DEVELOPING GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA FOR THE APPROVAL OF COOPERATIVE RESEARCH PROJECTS. BARROSO ACCEPTED THIS, AND PROMISED IN RETURN THAT:
--THE SPANISH SIDE WOULD PRESENT TO THE US SIDE WITHIN 30 DAYS A LIST OF 50 COOPERATIVE RESEARCH PROPOSALS, RANK-ORDERED ACCORDING TO SPANISH PRIORITIES. (NOTE:EMBASSY SUBSEQUENTLY SOUGHT CLARIFICATION AS TO WHETHER RANK-ORDERED LIST WOULD BE HELD TO REFLECT PROPOSALS RECEIVED UP TO JUNE 30 PROPOSED DEADLINE. THE SPANISH SIDE SAID THAT LIST WOULD INCLUDE ONLY PROPOSALS SUBMITTED PRIOR TO APRIL 30 DEADLINE; PROPOSALS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MADRID 03882 02 OF 02 181523Z

RECEIVED BETWEEN MAY 1 AND JUNE 30 WOULD BE HELD FOR CONSIDERATION AT PLANNED OCTOBER JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING.)

--THE SPANISH SIDE WOULD PRESENT ITS PROPOSALS IN THE OTHER FOUR PROGRAM CATEGORIES TO THE US SIDE NOT LATER THAN EARLY SEPTEMBER.

--THE SPANISH SIDE RECOGNIZED THAT HIGHLY MERITORIOUS PROJECTS NOT SUPPORTED FROM FIRST YEARS S & T FUNDS COULD BE CARRIED OVER AND SUPPORTED FROM SECOND YEAR FUNDS.

11. THE TONE OF THE MEETING WAS FRIENDLY AND COOPERATIVE THROUGHOUT, AND CONCLUDED WITH EXPRESSIONS OF MUTUAL APPRECIATION.

12. IN VIEW OF POLITICAL ISSUES RAISED ABOVE, WE CONCURRED IN THE SPANISH DRAFT OF A BLAND AND NONCOMMITTAL COMMUNIQUE FOR RELEASE BY THE FOREIGN MINISTRY TO THE SPANISH PRESS. STABLER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TECHNOLOGICAL EXCHANGES, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MADRID03882
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770177-0059
Format: TEL
From: MADRID
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770544/aaaabmci.tel
Line Count: 222
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 18d7e390-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION OES
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2472612
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JOINT COMMITTEE S & T MEETING OF MAY 16
TAGS: TGEN, MARR, SP, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/18d7e390-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009